

# Media Report 28 February 2020

**This weeks media reports will cover and answer great questions veterans are still asking such as Benefits for Survivors (of Disability Pension Recipients) Continuation of Disability Pension. and direction to Support you need, when you need it. Rehabilitation services and local Media Articles**

## Exceptional Incapacity Allowance

Some disabilities have a major financial impact on your life. The Exceptional Incapacity Allowance recognizes this extra cost with a tax-free monthly payment.

### About this program

The Exceptional Incapacity Allowance is a tax-free monthly payment that recognizes that your serious illness or injury has a significant effect on your quality of life.

Veterans who receive this allowance usually experience one or more of the following to an exceptional degree or scope:

- dependence,
- continuing pain and discomfort,
- loss of enjoyment of life,
- shortened lifespan.

The amount of your allowance will be based on a grade that reflects the nature of your disability.

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### Do you qualify?

You should apply for the Exceptional Incapacity Allowance if you:

- have a disability pension of 98 percent or more; or
  - have a combination of a disability pension and award that totals 98 percent or more; or
  - have a combination of a disability pension and Prisoner of War Compensation that totals 98 percent or more; and
  - have an exceptional incapacity that is related to the condition or conditions for which you receive a disability benefit.
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## How to apply

### Before you apply

In most cases, you do not need to submit an application for this allowance. Your Case Manager will apply for you based on the medical questionnaire you submitted as part of your Disability Benefits application.

If you believe that you, or someone you know, is eligible for this allowance you can contact us or your Case Manager. You can also apply online, or by mail or in person.

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### Apply online

If you are registered for My VAC Account, you can submit your application for this benefit online. If you aren't registered, you can [register now](#).

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### Mail or in person

Download the application form. Then, drop it off at a [VAC office](#). You can also mail your completed application directly to the address listed on the form.

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### Get help with your application

The staff at any [VAC office](#) can assist you, or call us at 1-866-522-2122.

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## Additional information

### Find out more

If you know your grade, the [Exceptional Incapacity Allowance table](#) shows the allowance amount by grade.

For more details about grades see the [Table of Disabilities](#).

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## Related programs

[Disability benefits](#): Compensation to recognize that your injury or illness is a result of your military service.

[Clothing Allowance](#): A monthly benefit when your disability causes wear and tear on your clothing or the need for custom-made clothing.

[Attendance Allowance](#): Monthly payments if your health needs require personal care support.

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## Frequently asked questions

### If I apply for the benefit and get declined, can I appeal?

Yes. If you are not satisfied with a decision you may apply in writing for a review. Learn more about your [review and appeal options](#).

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### Will the allowance be payable to surviving spouses and children?

Yes. If the Veteran was receiving the allowance at the time of their death, eligible survivors can receive the allowance for a period of one year.

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### Are there policies for this program?

Yes. Read more about the [Exceptional Incapacity Allowance policies](#).

### Case management

The transition to civilian life can be a challenge; more so if it involves a serious injury or illness. When the challenge is too much to handle alone, the assistance of a case manager can help you and your family.

## About this program

Case management is a collaborative process of assessment, planning, coordination, evaluation and advocacy for options and services to meet your needs.

## Do I need case management?

When the challenge is too much to handle alone, the assistance of a case manager can help you and your family. There are many factors that can lead to a need for case management services, some of the most common include:

- an ongoing decline in your physical or mental health,
  - financial uncertainty,
  - housing issues,
  - family-related stress, or
  - social isolation.
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## Do you qualify?

To receive the support of a VAC case manager, you must be a:

- a member of the Canadian Armed Forces or RCMP nearing your release date,
  - former member of the Canadian Armed Forces or the RCMP, or
  - survivor of any of the above.
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## How to apply

There is no application form to request Case Management.

When preparing to leave service, the VAC [transition interview](#) may identify that you and your family need case management services. We will then assign you a case manager.

If you have already released, please [contact us](#) if you think you (and your family) could benefit from case management services.

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## Additional information

### How it works

Throughout your time together, you and your case manager will:

- Build a strong relationship,
- Assess and identify your goals and decide if there are any barriers to achieving them, and
- Develop a plan that identifies the information and services you need to achieve your goals.

The services identified in your plan could include doctors, nurses, psychologists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, vocational rehabilitation specialists, and other service providers who can help you achieve your goals.

Throughout the life of your plan, your case manager will check your progress by coordinating between you, your health professionals, and other service providers and help you adjust your plan, if needed. To

get the most benefit from these services, provide feedback about any challenges you face to anyone working with you.

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## Related programs

[Transition Interview](#) - meet with a VAC employee to identify any needs you may have before your release from service.

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## Frequently asked questions

### I released years ago, would I still qualify for case management?

Yes. You can still benefit from this service if you face challenges in your everyday life that have made it difficult to successfully adjust to post-military life. To determine if you will benefit from case management, we look at several indicators of everyday life and score how you're doing. These indicators include your physical and mental health, job and financial security, social interactions and your physical environment (your home). If you have a limitation in two or more of those areas, you can likely benefit from case management.

#### [Joint Task Force 2 to stay in Ottawa](#)

Canadian Military Family Magazine

Twelve years of uncertainty surrounding the future of Joint Task Force 2 came to its conclusion recently when the government pulled the plug on the plan to move the Canadian Armed Forces' (CAF) special operations force to CFB Trenton. [READ MORE](#)

#### [Canada, U.S. team up to test extreme cold weather airfield repair solutions](#)

Government of Canada

Personnel from Canada's Department of National Defence (DND) and the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) joined forces in Goose Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador from Jan. 21 to Feb. 4, 2020, to test Cold Rapid Airfield Damage Repair (CRADR) techniques. Under the Canada-U.S. Test and Evaluation Program (CANUSTEP), DND and DoD agreed to collaborate on the creation of a plan to evaluate current Airfield Damage Repair (ADR) practices, and to test new and emerging technologies specific to CRADR, all under extreme cold weather conditions. [READ MORE](#)

#### [Le Canada et les États-Unis s'allient pour faire l'essai de techniques de réparation d'aérodromes par grand froid](#)

Gouvernement du Canada

Du 21 janvier au 4 février 2020, des membres du personnel du ministère de la Défense nationale (MDN) et du United States Department of Defense (DoD) ont joint leurs efforts pour faire l'essai de techniques de réparation rapide d'aérodromes par temps froid à Goose Bay, à Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador. Dans le cadre du Programme canado-américain d'essai et d'évaluation, le MDN et le DoD ont convenu de collaborer à la création d'un plan visant à évaluer les pratiques actuelles de réparation d'aérodromes, et pour faire l'essai de nouvelles technologies propres aux techniques de réparation rapide

d'aérodromes par temps froid, le tout dans des conditions météorologiques de froid extrême. [LIRE PLUS](#)

### [Soldiers engage in simulated emergency drills in London — and prepare for real thing](#)

London Free Press

When a flood threatens an Ontario community or a snowstorm hammers a city, skills learned in London just may help save the day. Canadian military gathered at Wolseley Barracks over the weekend for an exercise in disaster relief, crafting the skills that aid the military in dealing with a domestic crisis, said Lt. (Navy) Andrew McLaughlin, Public Affairs officer with 31 Canadian Brigade Group. [READ MORE](#)

### [CFB North Bay to test its domestic threat readiness](#)

North Bay Nugget

Visitors to 22 Wing/CFB North Bay could encounter military members wearing protective gear and carrying weapons on base during Exercise Wing Dragon from 7:30 a.m. March 3 to the afternoon of March 5. The aim of Exercise Wing Dragon is to train and validate 22 Wing's readiness for potential domestic threats within the base and the area surrounding it. The exercise is part of a series of training events and exercises conducted throughout the year. [READ MORE](#)

### [Opération NANOOK-NUNALIVUT 2020: les militaires canadiens démontrent leurs compétences dans le domaine arctique](#)

45e Nord

Les Forces armées canadiennes démontreront leurs compétences spécialisées dans le domaine arctique avec leurs partenaires internationaux au Nunavut Cette semaine, environ 350 membres des Forces armées canadiennes se rendront à Resolute Bay et à Rankin Inlet, au Nunavut, dans le cadre de l'opération NANOOK-NUNALIVUT 2020 (Op NA-NU 20). [LIRE PLUS](#)

### [New University of Guelph program offers academic accommodations to students in military](#)

Guelph Today

The University of Guelph is implementing a new policy to allow academic accommodations for students serving in the Canadian Forces. The Serving Scholars program is the first of its kind in Ontario that aims to remove any stress students face while they juggle their education and military duties. It will allow student reservists to defer, prepone exams or renegotiate due dates for assignments and exams along with an option to register for courses early if they are busy during the summer with military duties or are busy with training on the weekend. [READ MORE](#)

### [U.S. military funds study of video gamers' brains to create killer air robots](#)

Simcoe Reformer

The future of military attacks could be heading towards an apocalyptic nightmare. The U.S. Army is funding a team of artificial intelligence researchers to create swarms of killer air robots that can communicate with land robots to complete deadly military missions. And the success of this potential military tactic rests on the brain waves and eye movements of around 25 people playing video games. [READ MORE](#)

[Exercice militaire dans le parc national de la Gaspésie](#)

Mon Matane

20 réservistes du régiment Les Fusiliers du St-Laurent prendront part à un exercice militaire dans le parc national de la Gaspésie du 7 au 12 mars prochain, cet exercice a pour objectif de former les militaires aux techniques de navigation en terrain complexe. D'après le sergent Sylvain Dionne, représentant des affaires publiques au régiment Les Fusiliers du St-Laurent, la population pourra observer des déplacements de véhicules militaires. De plus, celui-ci précise qu'aucune munition ou pyrotechnie ne sera utilisée durant cet exercice. [LIRE PLUS](#)

[Watch out! U.S. Army tanks could collapse Polish bridges on their way to battle Russia](#)

The National Interest

The U.S. Army and its closest allies have a problem. The region of the world where they arguably are most likely to deploy its heaviest vehicles for high-tech combat also is peppered with flimsy old bridges that can't support the vehicles' weight. And the Army for one is struggling to buy armored bridge-layers that can help to mitigate the problem. [READ MORE](#)